

Wer bist du?

Who are you?

Summary of grammar

In this lesson you are introduced to the main characters in the language course. You also have an opportunity to practise some techniques which will make it easier for you to learn German. No new grammar is introduced in the first lesson. The language course takes place in a hotel – the Hotel Europa – in Aachen.

When you listen to the dialogues in German, it is important to remember that you do not need to understand every individual word. Try instead to get the gist of what is being said. Often you can guess the meaning of words - or you may recognise them as words you already know in another language. Try this out in the following scene:

A woman is looking for the Avanti Theatre.

Frau: Entschuldigen Sie bitte: Wo ist das Avanti-Theater?
 Mann: Das Avanti-Theater? Das Avanti-Theater? Hm – das weiß ich nicht.

The following scenes are extracts from Book 1 in which you are introduced to the main characters in the language course:

1. **Ex:** Ex is an imaginary figure – a little elf. Ex in Latin means *out of*. Andreas gave her this name because she jumped out of a book he was reading about the *Heinzelmännchen* in Cologne. Ex is invisible! This is how Ex introduced herself:

Ex: Hallo! Hallo! Da bin ich!
 Andreas: Wer bist du?
 Ex: Ich bin ...
 Andreas: Wer bist du?
 Ex: Ich bin ich.

2. **Andreas Schäfer:** He is a student and works part time as a porter at the Hotel Europa.
3. **Dr. Thürmann:** He is a regular guest at the Hotel Europa.

Dr. Thürmann: Sagen Sie mal: Was machen Sie?
Andreas: Studieren.
Dr. Thürmann: Was studieren Sie?
Andreas: Journalistik.

4. Hanna Clasen: She is a chambermaid at the Hotel Europa.

Hanna: Sie sind neu hier, oder? Ich glaube, Sie sind der Portier.
Andreas: Stimmt! Und ich bin Student.
Hanna: Was denn: Student oder Portier?
Andreas: Student und Portier.

5. Frau Berger: She is the hotel manageress.

Madame Berger would like to find out whose is the mystery voice she keeps hearing. (It's Ex's voice.) Frau Berger refers to the voice as Andreas' "second voice".

Frau Berger: Ich trinke ein Mineralwasser. Und Sie?
Andreas: Ein Bier.
Frau Berger: Und Ihre zweite Stimme?
Ex: Einen Orangensaft.
Frau Berger: Ziemlich frech, Ihre zweite Stimme.

In the next scene, Dr. Thürmann is treating a patient who has flu.

Herr Meier: Aber meine Beine, meine Beine sind so schwer!
Dr. Thürmann: Nun, Sie haben eine Grippe. Das ist nicht so schlimm.

Wörter und Wendungen*

Herzlich Willkommen!	Welcome!
das Theater	theatre

Übungen**

1 Write down the professions of the main characters in the blanks.
Note: there is no article!

1. Andreas ist _____ und _____.
2. Frau Berger ist _____.
3. Hanna ist _____.
4. Dr. Thürmann ist _____.

* Words and expressions

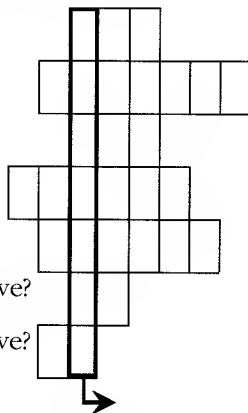
** Exercises

2 Fill in the blanks and then write the words in the boxes provided.

Once you have completed all the boxes, you will find – reading from top to bottom – Ex's favourite word. Write this word in the space provided.

- What is the polite form of address?
Was machen _____?
- What job does Andreas do?
Ich glaube, Sie sind der _____.
- What is the missing interrogative pronoun?
_____ denn: Student oder Portier?
- What is the German word for "voice"?
Ziemlich frech, Ihre zweite _____.
- In which city does Dr. Thürmann live?
Er wohnt in _____.
- Which word in German adds emphasis to an adjective?
Meine Beine sind _____ schwer.
- Which word in German adds emphasis to an adjective?
Das ist nicht _____ schlimm.

Ex's favourite word is: ...



3 Write the following sentences the table below, placing the verb in the shaded column.

- Wer bist du?
- Ich bin Student.
- Was studieren Sie?
- Sind Sie Student oder Portier?
- Sie sind neu hier, oder?
- Sagen Sie mal:
- Wer spricht denn da?
- Ich sehe nur Sie.
- Gehen wir zusammen essen?
- Ich bin doch Bauchredner.
- Meine Beine sind so schwer.
- Das ist mein Geheimnis.

	Verb	
1. Wer	bist	du?

I

	Verb	
4. Sind	Sie Student oder Portier?	

II